

***Handbook for M. Ed.
Students in
Art Education***

***School of Art and Design
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign***

Updated August 2014

Master of Education in Art Education

Welcome

Welcome to the art education graduate programs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Faculty in art education look forward to our time together in pursuit of knowledge about art education theory, research and practice. This advisory is a brief summary of recommendations, requirements, guidelines and events that will help you navigate the MEd Art Education program at UIUC. But please remember that the requirements of the Graduate College override anything in this Handbook (if there is a difference). You should read the Graduate College advisory booklet, available on line at: www.grad.uiuc.edu/

The program is discussed in the following sequence: some general information about the program, the course of study, academic advising and TA appointments, and a range of other comments and advice to help you understand the processes involved in undertaking the course.

General Information

For more detailed information relevant to graduate students go to the Graduate School website: www.grad.uiuc.edu/. This site contains a wide range of information including: getting started, funding, health, housing, transport, university recourses from A to Z, and community services.

Rules governing your courses are found in this handbook. Exceptions are subject to the approval of the Graduate Coordinator, with the agreement of the whole Art Education Faculty. *A+D Computing Facilities.* All graduate students in the School of Art + Design have 24/7 access to the A+D Computing Facilities. Graduate students may obtain access by attending one of the "orientations" to this facility, given at specific times during each fall semester by the A+D facilities staff. Graduate students should watch for e-mail announcements about these orientations and make arrangements to attend one of the orientations at the designated times. Information about the A+D computer labs is available at: <http://www.art.uiuc.edu/content/resources/computer-labs>.

UI Libraries. As a student in the School of Art + Design you have access to one of the nation's most prestigious library systems. Composed of many departmental units, the UI library is the largest public university library on earth. In total, the library holds more than ten million volumes, more than 90,000 serial titles, and more than six million manuscripts, maps, slides, audio tapes, microforms, DVDs, videotapes, laser discs, and other non-print material. If you can't find something on the shelves, you can take advantage of the library's through online database selection and extensive interlibrary loan program. Information about the UI Libraries is available at: www.library.uiuc.edu

The Krannert Art Museum is adjacent to the School of Art + Design. It boasts an archive of over 8,000 works, and houses rotating exhibits of traditional and cutting edge art. KAM permanent holdings include traditional European and American Paintings, European and American Decorative Arts, pre-Columbian Art, 20th-Century Art, Asian Art, African Art, and

Digital Art/New Media. Each year the museum hosts group BFA and MFA exhibitions, as well as a Faculty exhibition. The **Krannert Art Museum Giertz Education Center** is located in the lower level of KAM and circulates education materials to UI students, scholars, local schools, libraries, community sites, and other museums. The education center collection includes art history textbooks, posters, slides, videos, DVDs, docent and curator research archives, teacher manuals and touch kits, art prints and art replicas. Information about the Krannert Art Museum is available at: <http://www.kam.uiuc.edu/>

Teaching Assistantships

The Art Education Program is able to offer a limited number of teaching assistantships. These are 25% assistantships. They carry a modest salary and exemption from paying tuition costs and a partial fee waiver.

Decisions regarding funding, including Teaching Assistantships, are based on students' qualifications and the needs of the Art Education Program. They are made by the whole faculty and are subject to ratification at regular Art Education Faculty meetings.

TAs work under the direction of specific art education faculty members, who serve as their TA Supervisors. They may use equipment and resources in the TA room in the performance of their TA responsibilities. This includes preparation for teaching, assisting in program events and activities, grading work, and preparing work for exhibitions.

All initial and continuing funding is subject to satisfactory academic progress and satisfactory performance of TA duties. Supervisors will evaluate the performance of TAs working under their direction and will share their performance evaluations with the Program Chair and the Graduate Coordinator. Departmental funding, whether through fellowships or TA appointments, will not extend beyond two semesters for the MEd degree. If certification as a teacher is being sought simultaneously, a maximum of two further semesters may be offered.

TA appointments run from August 16 to May 15. Students need to plan their time so that they are available during all this time with the exception only of officially designated University holidays.

The Program of Study

This program is designed to provide advanced level study for students of two main kinds. It serves as professional development for art teachers and supervisors in the public schools and as preparation for those interested in a variety of careers, such as museum education, arts advocacy or community arts.

Students seeking this degree take a minimum of 8 graduate level courses (400 and 500 level) making up a total of 32 credit hours. Completion of the degree takes at least two semesters, though some students take longer. Students must complete a minimum of 20 credit hours (usually 5 courses of 4 credit hours each) with art education program faculty. This does not

include the maximum of 4 credit hours students acquire by taking ARTE 503 for being Teaching Assistants.

Remaining credit hours can be taken with additional art education courses, from studio, art history, education, or any other graduate courses offered by the university that complement their studies or professional aspirations.

The art education courses offered by the program change from year to year and are available in a separate document. Commonly, these may include:

ARTE 402 Artistic Development
ARTE 480 Popular Visual Culture
ARTE 501 Issues in Art Education: Contemporary Art Practice as Pedagogy
ARTE 501 Issues in Art Education: Art and Cultural Theory
ARTE 501 Issues in Art Education: Research Methodologies in Art Education
ARTE 501 Issues in Art Education: Writing for Publication
ARTE 502 Curriculum Development in Art
ARTE 503 Professional Teaching Seminar
ARTE 505 Foundations of Art Education
ARTE 591 Independent Graduate Studies (4 credit hours)
ARTE 591 Independent Graduate Studies: Art Education Forum (1 credit hours)

Note that ARTE 501 is a shell course, that is, a number of different topics can be explored in different semesters under this number. It can be repeated for credit. Students should be alert to what is being offered from semester to semester under this number.

ARTE 503 Professional Teaching Seminar is required each semester of students who are Teaching Assistants. It may be taken for up to 4 credit hours, 2 per semester, and count towards the MEd degree. Additional ARTE 503 course hours will not count towards the degree.

ARTE 591 Independent Graduate Studies. With the consent of the student's Academic Advisor and the Graduate Coordinator, 591 may be counted towards the degree. Only in unusual cases may it count twice.

Additionally, ARTE 591: Independent Graduate Studies is used for 1 credit hour for the Art Education Forum that takes place in the Fall semester. Registration in this course is a mandatory requirement and it is graded on the basis of attendance but does not count towards the required 32 hours of course credit.

Advising

Early in a student's program one of the art education faculty will be assigned to act as the student's Advisor. This may be, but does not have to be, the same person as the TA Supervisor. The role of the advisor is to help students choose their electives in a way that supports their professional aspirations. The choice of advisor is primarily based on mutual professional

interests and is negotiated between the student and the faculty member. Electives should always be approved by the advisor.

Students occasionally want to change their advisor because of a change in interest. This is at the discretion of the student. In order to change advisors, your current advisor must be told and a form obtained from him/her must be signed and taken to the new advisor. This person must agree and also sign the form, and the Graduate Coordinator must be informed. The form is called "Advisor Change Request Form." Changing advisors is rare in this degree because it involves only coursework.

Annual Review.

In accordance with Graduate School policy, the Program of Art Education conducts an annual review of all of its enrolled students. The review helps students by identifying and clarifying academic expectations, opportunities and deficiencies. It is based on a self-report that should serve the student as a guide to the program and as a continuing record of academic progress. Students are encouraged to keep their own continuing record each year by year.

The review asks students to complete the Annual Review Form, sent to them each year toward the beginning of the Spring semester. The form requests information about the student's academic accomplishments and the completion of specific program requirements.

The Program faculty, acting as an Annual Academic Progress Review Committee, meets in a timely way to review the information provided by students. They write a draft of an evaluation of each student's performance and suggest goals for the coming academic year. Students are given a copy of this draft and are asked to meet with their adviser to discuss it. They may then submit written comments/responses to the draft review if they wish. The Review Committee then finalizes its review and sends a copy to each student.